

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 DHA-02 /093 W

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P R 131400Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WSSHDC PRIORITY 4950

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF, AO, PFOR

SUBJ: A DEAL WITH MPLA? TALK WITH SWAPO?

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. OPPOSITION LEADER SIR DE VILLIERS GRAAFF CALLED ON SAG  
TO START NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MPLA IN ANGOLA, AND ALSO TO  
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BEGIN TALKING WITH THE INTERNAL WING OF SWAPO IN SOUTH WEST

AFRICA, IN PARLIAMENTARY ADDRESS FEBRUARY 12. GRAAFF SAID TIME HAD COME WHEN "VALUE OF THE WORKS (CUNENE SCHEME) MAY HAVE TO BE SET OFF AGAINST HUMAN LIVES IT WILL COST". NOTING THAT MPLA MAY PAUSE IN ITS ADVANCE SOUTH WARD BEFORE LAUNCHING ATTACK AGAINST AREAS SOUTH AFRICA HAS SAID IT WILL DEFEND, UNITED PARTY LEADER SAID "IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S DUTY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY PAUSE TO MAKE CONTACT THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES WITH THE DE FACTO GOVERNMENT IN ANGOLA...EVERY POSSIBLE AVENUE OF NEGOTIATION SHOULD BE EXPLORED BEFORE FIGHTING, IF ANY, BEGINS."

2. ANTICIPATING THAT ANGOLA COULD BECOME THE BASE FOR FURTHER SWAPO RAIDS INTO SOUTH WEST AFRICA, GRAAFF CALLED ON SAG TO CONSIDER STEPS WHICH COULD SEPARATE THE INTERNAL WING OF SWAPO FROM ITS MORE MILITANT EXTERNAL FACTION. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE INTERNAL SWAPO REPRESENTED AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE.

3. "IF EVER IT IS TIME FOR A DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE IN AFRICA AND THE WESTERN WORLD, IT IS NOW." GRAAFF THOUGHT MANY WESTERN POWERS UNDERSTOOD PROBLEM BUT "ARE HELD BACK BECAUSE OF THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION AND CONSTITUTIONALIZATION OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON COLOUR ALONE." IF SAG COULD DO MORE TO ELIMINATE SUCH DISCRIMINATION, WHOLE ATTITUDE OF WEST COULD CHANGE RAPIDLY, GRAAFF NOTED.

4. ANOTHER UNITED PARTY MP, DEREK DE VILLIERS, EXPANDED ON SAME THEME AT LENGTH, NOTING THAT PORTUGUESE GENERAL ARRIAGA MIGHT BE INTERMEDIARY WHO WOULD HAVE RESPECT AND CONFIDENCE OF ALL PARTIES. HE ALSO CALLED FOR FORMATION OF TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA BEFORE END OF YEAR, AND TALKS EVEN WITH EXILED SWAPO LEADER SAM NUJOMA.

5. ARGUS LEAD ARTICLE FEBRUARY 13 SAYS THERE ARE GROWING INDICATIONS SAG IS READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH MPLA, AND THAT WHILE DIRECT CONTACT IMPOSSIBLE, THERE ARE INDIRECT CHANNELS AVAILABLE WHICH COULD DEFUSE THREAT OF MILITARY CONFRONTATION. "GOVERNMENT SOURCES SAID THAT IF MPLA CHOSE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE CALL FOR GUARANTEES FOR THE SAFETY OF REFUGEES AND THE CUNENE WATER SCHEME MADE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PREVIOUSLY BY PRIME MINISTER VORSTER, THERE WOULD BE AN IMMEDIATE REDUCTION IN TENSION." END UNCLASSIFIED

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6. IN OUR CONTACTS WITH PARLIAMENTARIANS AND PRESS ON EVENING 12TH, WE FOUND GREAT SPECULATION THAT UP MAY BE PAVING WAY FOR MODERATION OF SAG POSITION ON ANGOLA, BUT

NO ONE SEEMS YET TO HAVE SPECIFICS OF ANY CONCRETE MOVES.  
BOWDLER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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